

Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Objective 16-4 targets the reduction in maternal deaths due to obstetric causes to a rate of 4.3 per 100,000 live births.

A total of 64 maternal deaths were reported in 2004, at a rate of 11.7 per 100,000 live births based on data extracted from the Birth and Death Statistical Master Files (Figure 16-4, Table 16-4). California's maternal death rates due to obstetric causes are significantly higher than the target established in HP2010, and the objective is not being achieved.

Data by race-ethnicity of the mother show that the highest reliable maternal death rates were for Hispanic women (14.5 per 100,000 live births in 2003) and for White women (12.9 per 100,000 live births in 2003). These death rates remain significantly higher than the HP2010 target, and the objective is not being achieved for either of these racial and ethnic populations as of 2004. Maternal death rates for African Americans/Blacks, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders, and the Multirace populations were unreliable due to the small number of events, and are not reported here (except where zero events were reported).

Examined by age of mother, the only reliable maternal death rates occurred for women aged 35 years and over (22.4 per 100,000 live births in 2004). No deaths were reported among mothers aged 15 years and under across all years 2000-2004. Maternal death rates for all other age groups examined were unreliable due to the small number of events, and are not reported here.

For more information on maternal deaths in California, visit the Maternal and Child Health Branch Web site at:

<http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-4, please visit:

http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od16.htm#maternaldeaths>

**Figure 16-4
Maternal Death Rates
California, 2000-2004**

Healthy People 2010 Objective = 4.3

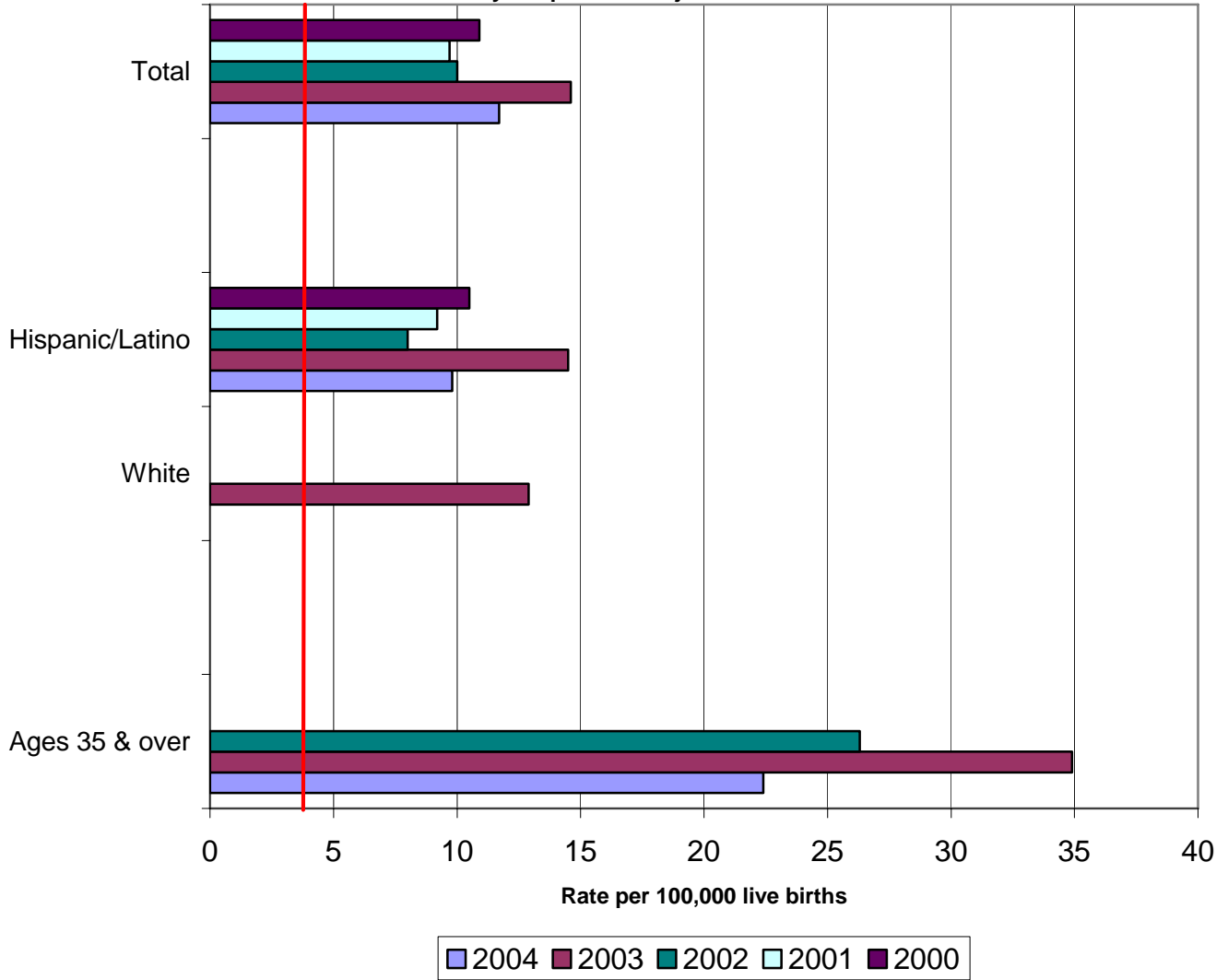


Table 16-4: Maternal Deaths and Death Rates, California 2000-2004

Maternal Death Rates*	2000		Lower	Upper	2001		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate¹	C.I.	C.I.	N	Rate¹	C.I.	C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Objective 16-4	4.3				4.3			
TOTAL	58	10.9	8.1	13.7	51	9.7	7.0	12.3
Race-Ethnicity of Mother								
African American/Black	10	DSU	-----	-----	9	DSU	-----	-----
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
Asian	5	DSU	-----	-----	4	DSU	-----	-----
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	DSU	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
Hispanic/Latino	27	10.5	6.5	14.4	24	9.2	5.5	12.9
White	15	DSU	-----	-----	14	DSU	-----	-----
Multirace	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
Age of Mother								
Under 15	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
15 - 19	2	DSU	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
20 - 24	13	DSU	-----	-----	8	DSU	-----	-----
25 - 29	11	DSU	-----	-----	15	DSU	-----	-----
30 - 34	14	DSU	-----	-----	15	DSU	-----	-----
35 and over	18	DSU	-----	-----	13	DSU	-----	-----

Maternal Death Rates*	2002		Lower	Upper	2003		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate¹	C.I.	C.I.	N	Rate¹	C.I.	C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Objective 16-4	4.3				4.3			
TOTAL	53	10.0	7.3	12.7	79	14.6	11.4	17.8
Race-Ethnicity of Mother								
African American/Black	8	DSU	-----	-----	12	DSU	-----	-----
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
Asian	6	DSU	-----	-----	6	DSU	-----	-----
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
Hispanic/Latino	21	8.0	4.6	11.4	39	14.5	9.9	19.0
White	18	DSU	-----	-----	21	12.9	7.4	18.4
Multirace	0	0.0	-----	-----	1	DSU	-----	-----
Age of Mother								
Under 15	0	0.0	-----	-----	0	0.0	-----	-----
15 - 19	5	DSU	-----	-----	4	DSU	-----	-----
20 - 24	7	DSU	-----	-----	15	DSU	-----	-----
25 - 29	8	DSU	-----	-----	15	DSU	-----	-----
30 - 34	10	DSU	-----	-----	13	DSU	-----	-----
35 and over	23	26.3	15.5	37.0	32	34.9	22.8	47.1

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Table 16-4: Maternal Deaths and Death Rates 2000-2004, cont'd.

Maternal Death Rates*	2004 N	Rate¹	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	5-year Trend	HP2010 Objective Being Achieved?
Healthy People 2010 Objective 16-4		4.3				
TOTAL	64	11.7	8.9	14.6	ns	No
Race-Ethnicity of Mother						
African American/Black	11	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Asian	6	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.0	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Hispanic/Latino	27	9.8	6.1	13.5	ns	No
White	18	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Multirace	0	0.0	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Age of Mother						
Under 15	0	0.0	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
15 - 19	0	0.0	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
20 - 24	10	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
25 - 29	15	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
30 - 34	18	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
35 and over	21	22.4	12.8	32.0	n/a	No

SOURCES: California Department of Health Services, Death and Birth Statistical Master Files, 2000-2004.

NOTES: * Maternal deaths due to obstetric causes are defined by ICD-10 codes O00-O95, O98-O99.

¹ Rate per 100,000 live births.

ns No significant trend as measured by linear regression analysis.

n/a Not applicable (fewer than five data points).

DSU Data statistically unreliable (Relative Standard Error greater than 23 percent).